

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 SAIGON 04852 121040Z

21 S

ACTION H-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 SSO-00 /014 W

----- 113763

O 120905Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5226

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAIGON 4852

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, VS

SUBJECT: ASSISTANCE, ELIZABETH TISDALE

REFS: A) STATE 75830; B) SAIGON 4343

1. PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO SENATOR JAVITS FROM  
AMBASSADOR MARTIN:

SINCE CABLING YOU ON 5 APRIL, THE PACE AND INTENSITY OF  
THE ATTACKS BY THE NORTH VIETNAMESE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE ON THE  
APPROACHES TO SAIGON HAD MOUNTED. I TOOK UP WEDNESDAY THE MATTER  
OF THE MOVEMENT OF THE CHILDREN IN THE AN LOC ORPHANAGE  
WITH THE APPROPRIATE HIGH LEVELS OF THE GVN.

THAT AFTERNOON, BETTY TISDALE WAS INFORMED BY DEPUTY  
PRIME MINISTER PHAN QUANG DAN THAT APPROVAL WAS TO BE GIVEN  
FOR THE CHILDREN TO DEPART. WE MOVED VERY FAST TO TIE DOWN  
ALL THE PAPERS SINCE SAVAGE ATTACKS ON THE ADOPTION LIFT BEING  
MOUNTED BY HANOI AND THE SO-CALLED "PRG" WERE BEING ECHOED  
BY THE OPPOSITION IN THE SAIGON ASSEMBLY. I AM REPEATING  
SOME OF HANOI'S CHOICER COMMENTS IN ANOTHER CABLE. YOU  
MIGHT FIND THEM USEFUL THE NEXT TIME YOU HAVE TO TEACH  
ANTHONY LEWIS ON A TV PROGRAM THAT WHEN REPORTING ON A  
DEVELOPING COUNTRY UNDER SAVAGE ATTACK THE CONSISTENT  
PORTRAYAL OF THE NORMAL PIMPLES AS INOPERABLE TERMINAL  
CANCERS MAY BE EFFECTIVE ADVOCACY OR PROPAGANDA BUT A  
VERY POOR SUBSTITUTE FOR RESPONSIBLE JOURNALISM.

BERT SCHNEIDER, PRODUCER OF "HEARTS AND MINDS", USED  
THE OCCASION OF THE ACADEMY AWARDS DINNER TO ENGAGE IN  
PROPAGANDA FOR HANOI AND SAY: "THE LIBERATION OF VIET-NAM  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SAIGON 04852 121040Z

IS A WONDERFUL THING AND THAT HE HOPED THE MOVIE FOR WHICH

HE WON THE OSCAR" IS RELATIVE TO THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN VIET-NAM. HE WAS RIGHT. IT DID. HE HAS EVERY RIGHT UNDER OUR SYSTEM TO SAY WHATEVER HE CHOOSES. BUT WHEN THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE CONSISTENTLY DENIED THE WHOLE TRUTH ABOUT THE REALITIES IN VIET-NAM, THEN FOREIGN POLICY WILL BE MADE IN THE STREETS, BY THE PRODUCERS SUCH AS SCHNEIDER, IN EDITORIAL SANCTUARY-BUT NOT WHERE IT SHOULD BE MADE.

THE MARVELOUS STAFF OF THE USAID ELEMENT OF THIS MISSION QUITE LITERALLY PERFORMED MIRACLES AND THE CHILDREN LEFT LAST EVENING ON TWO PLANES.

YOUR INTEREST IN THE AN LOC CASE WAS A GREAT HELP IN GETTING APPROVAL. YOU ARE VERY MUCH RESPECTED HERE AS A FAIR AND OBJECTIVE MAN. THIS WAS WHY MORE THAN A YEAR AGO THE GOVERNMENT OF VIET-NAM INVITED YOU TO COME AND BE COMPLETELY FREE TO DELVE AS DEEPLY AS YOU CHOSE INTO THE QUESTION OF "POLITICAL PRISONERS" AND OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE CAMPAIGN OF SYSTEMATIC DISTORTION BEING WAGED AGAINST THIS COUNTRY. I AM TRULY SORRY THAT YOU COULD NOT COME AND ASCERTAIN FOR YOURSELF THE WHOLE TRUTH ABOUT THE PRESENT REALITIES IN VIET-NAM.

HAD YOU BEEN ABLE TO DO SO, I AM ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN YOU WOULD BE LEADING THE FIGHT FOR THE FULL ADDITIONAL \$722 MILLION THE PRESIDENT HAS REQUESTED FOR MILITARY AID FOR FY 75.

HAD YOU BEEN ABLE TO DO SO I AM CERTAIN YOU WOULD BE LEADING THE FIGHT FOR THE THREE YEAR PROGRAM WHICH WOULD STILL PERMIT THIS COUNTRY TO SURVIVE AND OUR COMMITMENT TO END. IT COULD END WITHOUT THE DEEP REVULSION THAT WILL CERTAINLY OCCUR WHEN IT IS BORNE IN ON THE CONSCIENCE OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, AS IT MOST SURELY WILL BE, THAT A CLEVER CAMPAIGN OF FIENDISHLY EFFECTIVE DISTORTION ABOUT VIET-NAM FORCED THESE PEOPLE TO GIVE UP HALF THEIR COUNTRY AND SUBSTITUTE BLOOD AND BODIES AND SPLINTERED BONES FOR THE AMMUNITION WE PROMISED THEM BUT NEVER DELIVERED.

TODAY AT XUAN LOC THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE ARE FIGHTING WITH GREAT TENACITY AND COURAGE AND HAVE THROWN BACK A MASSIVE NORTH VIETNAMESE ATTACK. THEY WILL BE STILL HOLDING TOMORROW IF THEY DO NOT RUN OUT OF AMMUNITION.

NO LIVING AMERICAN HAS WANTED TO PUT VIET-NAM BEHIND US AS MUCH AS I HAVE. BUT WHAT WE ARE APPARENTLY ON THE VERGE OF DOING NOW WILL NOT PUT IT BEHIND US. IT WILL LIVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 SAIGON 04852 121040Z

ON AS A FESTERING WOUND WELL BEYOND OUR BICENTENNIAL YEAR WHEN MUCH WILL BE SAID ABOUT LIBERTY, INDEPENDENCE, FREEDOM. THOSE WORDS WILL HAVE A RATHER HALLOW RING. FOR THESE PEOPLE, EVEN IF OVERRUN, WILL STILL FIGHT ON. THEY WILL NOT CONSENT, IN VOLTAIRE'S WORDS, TO BE "OBSCURELY HUNG".

THEIR FIGHT WILL STILL BE REMINDING THE WORLD THAT THE SOVIET UNION HAS NEVER WAVERED IN ITS SUPPORT FOR HANOI FOR THREE DECADES.

THEIR CONTINUING FIGHT WILL STILL BE REMINDING THE WORLD THAT, DESPITE CRUSHING DEFEATS WHEN FAR MORE EQUIPMENT WAS LOST THAN BY THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE IN THE LAST MONTH, THE SOVIET UNION COMPLETELY RE-EQUIPPED THE EGYPTIANS AND SYRIAN ARMIES THREE TIMES, OR WAS IT FOUR?

THEIR CONTINUING FIGHT WILL BE REMINDING THE WORLD THAT BY COMPARISON AMERICAN PROMISES AREN'T REALLY WORTH A TINKER'S DAMN IF A DEDICATED GROUP OF PROPAGANDISTS CAN PERSUADE US TO SUBSTITUTE DISTORTION, SOPHISTRY, DECEIT AND RATIONALIZATION FOR THE PLAIN TRUTH.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO MY WORRY ABOUT SAIGON WAS ITS EFFECT ON BERLIN. TODAY, IT IS TEL AVIV AND JERUSALEM. FOR I DEEPLY BELIEVE THAT TO ASSUME THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL IN THE END MAKE SUCH DISCRIMINATING DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN SAIGON AND OTHER PLACES WHERE WE HAVE NO MORE LEGAL OR MORAL COMMITMENTS THAN WE HAVE HERE IS PURE ILLUSION. I PRAY THAT IT WAS NOT PROPHETIC THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S LAST STOP IN ISRAEL WAS THE MASADA PLATEAU.

BECAUSE OF MY SINCERE RESPECT FOR YOU AND BECAUSE I WILL ALWAYS BE GRATEFUL FOR THE SUPPORT YOU GAVE ME WHEN I WAS CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR REFUGEE AND MIGRATION AFFAIRS IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH, I HAVE TAKEN THE LIBERTY OF WRITING YOU IN COMPLETE CANDOR IN THE CERTAINTY YOU SHARE MY DEEP CONVICTION THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND THE CONGRESS ARE ENTITLED TO THE WHOLE TRUTH ABOUT THE ACTUAL REALITIES IN VIET-NAM. I HOPE YOU TRY TO SEE THAT THEY GET IT IN THE DISCUSSIONS NEXT WEEK.

MARTIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EMERGENCY EVACUATION, ORPHANS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975SAIGON04852  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750128-0261  
**From:** SAIGON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750455/aaaabzdi.tel  
**Line Count:** 143  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION H  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 75830, 75 SAIGON 4343  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 30 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <30 MAY 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <30 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ASSISTANCE, ELIZABETH TISDALE  
**TAGS:** SREF, VS, (JAVITS, JACOB K), (MARTIN, GRAHAM A), (TISDALE, ELIZABETH)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006